[Translation]

Over Bridge in Allahabad, U.P.

2229. DR. AMRIT LAL BHARTI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned funds in October, 1989 vide construction order No. 199-89-28 Public Works Department/9/18/R/88 for the construction of an over bridge on Chaufatka Railway Crossing in Allahabad district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of funds sanctioned therefor;

(c) whether any steps have been taken for early commencement of construction work of this bridge;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (e) The Central Government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways\Bridges in the country and all other roads\bridges are essentially the responsibility of concerned State Governments. The over bridge in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh falls within the purview of State Government of Uttar Pradesh and as such responsibility for its construction lies with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Foreign Universities

2230. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign universities presently running their B.Tech., M.B.A., M.C.A. and other courses on technical education in India;

(b) the average fees being charged by these universities;

(c) the number out of these foreign universities recognised by the Association of Indian Universities;

(d) whether entry of these universities in the country is in the interest of proper development of technical education;

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to make any law for the control and regulation of these universities; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (f) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is vested with the power to accord permission to conduct programmes in technical education at diploma, degree and post-graduate levels. No Foreign affiliated programme has been approved by them. The Association of Indian Universities have also not recognised any foreign university for running any technical education course in India. The details of foreign universities running technical courses in India are not, therefore, available. In order to create awareness among the public against such foreign affiliated programme, the Council has been issuing public notices in the newspapers from time to time.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Tribal and Backward Areas of Gujarat

2231. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes launched in the tribal and backward regions of Gujarat for irrigation projects during the last three years, till date;

(b) whether any assistance has been provided by the Union Government for these irrigation projects during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of irrigation projects going on with the above assistance in the said regions of Gujarat as on date;

(e) whether these are likely to be completed in specified time-frame; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Port Policy

2232. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken initiative to amend the present port policy for optimum utilisation of existing private ports, providing additional facilities etc. to them, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to encourage and open up port sector for private investment;

(c) the details of direct foregn investment approved in port development and progress of the ongoing major project, project-wise; and